

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A tool for use in removing material from a workpiece to smooth a surface of the workpiece, said tool comprising:

a shank portion adapted to be held by a power-driven implement of the type providing movable contact between said tool and the workpiece;

5 a working portion of said tool connected to said shank portion, said working portion adapted for contacting said workpiece, and said working portion having a smooth surface area adapted for preventing abrasion of the workpiece when moved into contact therewith; and

10 said working portion of said tool having one or more depressions formed in said smooth surface area, each depression having an abrading mechanism for abrading raised areas of the workpiece, said abrading mechanism does not protrude above said smooth surface area, whereby when the raised areas of the workpiece are abraded and reduced in height by the working portion of said tool, the smooth surface area of said working portion of said tool is then caused to engage the workpiece and further abrasion of the workpiece is prevented.

2. The tool of claim 1, wherein a shape of said tool is adapted for movement by rotation.

3. The tool of claim 1, wherein a shape of said tool is adapted for movement by vibration.

4. The tool of claim 3, wherein the shape of said tool is adapted for movement by one of a sonic or ultrasonic vibration.

5. The tool of claim 1, wherein said abrading mechanism comprises an abrasive.

6. The tool of claim 1, wherein said abrading mechanism comprises a sharp edge.

7. The tool of claim 1, wherein each said depression comprises an elongate groove.

8. The tool of claim 7 wherein each said elongate groove is formed parallel to an axial axis of said tool.

9. The tool of claim 1, wherein said smooth surface area of the working portion surrounds each said depression.

10. The tool of claim 1, wherein the working portion of said tool is elongate and is generally circular in cross-section.

11. A method of removing material from a workpiece using a tool to smooth a surface of the workpiece, comprising the steps of:

using a tool of the type having a smooth surface area adjacent one or more depressions, where each depression has an abrading mechanism therein;

5 attaching the tool to an implement of the type for imparting relative movement between the tool and the workpiece;

engaging the tool with a surface of the workpiece and allowing relative movement therebetween to reduce a height of raised areas on the surface of the workpiece by said abrading mechanism; and

10 preventing abrading of the surface of the workpiece once the raised areas have been reduced in height by engagement of the smooth surface areas of the tool with the surface of the workpiece.

12. The method of claim 11, further including the step of rotating the tool with the implement.

13. The method of claim 11, further including the step of vibrating the tool with the implement.

14. The method of claim 11, further including abrading the raised areas of the workpiece by an abrasive located in each said depression.

15. The method of claim 11, further including abrading the raised areas of the workpiece by a sharp edge located in each said depression.

16. A method of making a tool adapted for smoothing a surface of a workpiece, comprising the steps of:

forming a tool having a shank portion and a working portion, said shank portion adapted for attachment to an implement of the type for imparting movement to the tool;

5        forming said working portion for engagement with the workpiece;

forming a smooth and nonabrasive surface on said working portion of the tool;

forming one or more depressions so as to be adjacent the smooth and nonabrasive surface; and

10        forming an abrading mechanism in each said depression so that the abrading mechanism does not protrude above the smooth and nonabrasive surface.